433 reorganized to meet the home market and to win West European markets as well.

464 At the advent of independence Estonia possessed an extensive and well-trained body of industrial workers, whose quality was further improved when various industrial schools and the Polytechnical University, which provided engineering training, were established. Many Estonians received their higher technical training in other countries and returned home to make use of their newly acquired skills in Estonian industry. Estonian skilled workers and engineers were very much appreciated even in czarist Russia, and they have also made a good adjustment as emigrants after World War II. That Estonian farmers and farm workers were superior to Russian ones may be proved by evidence that everywhere in Russia before the

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

464 Revolution Estonian colonies were more prosperous than the surrounding Russians.

162 642 178 Table 1 shows the division of Estonia's population into occupational groups.

According to Table 1, industrialization was increasing in independent Estonia. By 1939, 55 per cent of the population was occupied in agriculture and 24 per cent in industry. Noticeably decreasing was the number of people who had no established occupation (domestic help, seasonal workers, etc.)

464 162 The percentage of active people who were earning a livelihood for themselves and their families in 1934 was 71 per cent. Workers and employees made up only 33.7 per cent of this figure, including family members who worked without wages. In the United States the corresponding persentage was 74.2. The largest

464 group among the active population was the self-
162 employed group, those who worked in their own independent enterprises with members of their families or alone, such as small-holders and
465 craftsmen of various types. The total income of all working groups was in 1939 about 182.2 million Estonian kroons. Of this sum the various occupational groups received the following shares:

Industry	41.7
State and local governmental employees	25.7
Agriculture	13.1
Trade, including banking and insurance	11.6
Professional groups	4.1
Transportation	2.5

433 Estonia's economy rests on agriculture and industry. In 1939 the net agricultural output

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

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Table 1. Estonia's Population by Occupation

Occupations	1922				1934	
	Men	Women	Total	Per cent	Total	Per cent
Agriculture	305,381	347,132	652,513	59.0	662,561	58.8
Industry	85,403	88,703	174,106	15.7	195,949	17.4
Trade	21,549	24,777	46,326	4.2	55,569	4.9
Transportation and communication	20,075	16,948	37,023	3.3	38,193	3.4
Social work, including teachers	35,061	26,851	61,912	5.6	73,642	6.5
Unsettled occupations	37,882	58,201	96,183	8.7	44,873	4.0
Others	14,888	24,108	38,996	3.5	55,626	5.0
Total	520,239	586,820	1107,059	100.0	1126,413	100.0

1;Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

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Table 2. Distribution of Population by Occupational Status in 1934

Occupational Group	Employers with hired help	Self-employed		Workers and Tenants	Employees	Professional Groups and Occupation Unknown
		members of family	alone			
Agriculture	103,096	419,126	18,524	116,496	4,007	1,311
Industry	11,887	6,573	43,733	121,895	11,607	254
Trade	5,265	7,137	14,733	16,257	12,071	106
Transportation and Communication	442	444	5,146	22,482	9,581	98
Social work	----	----	----	15,340	35,448	22,854
Domestic help	----	----	----	18,848	98	----
Others	----	----	----	----	----	55,626
Occupation unknown	121	175	584	17,420	890	6,737
Total	120,811	433,455	82,720	328,739	73,702	86,986

433 was $110,000,000, and that of industry $59,000,000 (on the basis of 1951 prices).

241 The use of labor in agriculture is shown in Table 3. There was a trend on Estonian farms to use more seasonal labor from among members of the farmers' families. Hired help was difficult to get. This scarcity of workers in agriculture was partly alleviated by the employment of Polish agrarian workers. The percentage of hired workers in agriculture was only 10 per cent of the total number of workers. The percentage of nonworking farm family members was 20.8, which leaves for the working members of the farmers' families 69.2 per cent of the total number of workers.

464 465 The distribution of labor in most important branches of industry in the last days of the Estonian Republic is given in Table 4. An

Table 4. Types of Plants,[1] Number of Workers in Industry and Average Wages

Branch of Industry	Number of Workers, May, 1937					Hourly Wages in Estonian cents, July, 1938	
	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale	Crafts	Adjacent branches	Men	Women
Quarries, mines	[19] 3,594	[9] 322	[4] 19	[105] 225		47.9	31.4
Mineral	[27] 2,889	[51] 438	[164] 232	[277] 427		41.0	22.5
Metal	[35] 4,489	[97] 994	[228] 696	[2,981] 3,802	[8] 12	45.6	26.8
Chemical	[16] 2,679	[31] 349	[48] 158	[71] 125	[3]	40.3	24.7
Leather	[13] 610	[23] 221	[9] 30	[291] 442		38.4	20.9
Textile	[52] 12,530	[63] 624	[162] 379	[1,582] 1,998	[84] 77	36.3	26.8
Wood	[63] 5,775	[169] 2,003	[659] 11,442	[2,663] 3,261	[212] 196	39.8	25.4
Pulp and paper	[11] 2,222	[12] 113	[12] 38	[35] 63	[3] 5	39.3	26.5
Printing, etc.	[19] 1,470	[41] 515	[25] 110	[334] 520		46.3	27.8
Foods and beverages	[29] 2,594	[199] 1,626	[1,425] 3,084	[569] 1,293	[166] 152	39.2	22.4
Clothing, footwear	[15] 1,103	[49] 449	[38] 137	[9,708] 12,751		41.9	24.5
Construction	[71] 5,929	[72] 916	***	***	***	43.7	23.3
Electric, gas water-works	[7] 847	[5] 62	[8] 21			46.5	31.9
Laundries and cleaners	***	***	***	[1,460] 2,478	...	37.1	21.5
TOTAL	46,731	8,432	6,356	27,379	442	average: 42.7	average: 25.9

[1] Number of plants is given in brackets

1;Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

464 industry is considered large-scale when it em-
465 ploys 20 or more workers; medium-scale, with 5-19 workers; and small-scale, with fewer than 5 workers.

361 438 The geographic distribution of industry given in Table 5 shows that Tallinn is the most important industrial city of Estonia. It occupies first place in almost every industry, except the mining and oil industries, which are located mostly in Virumaa, Harjumaa and Petserimaa counties. In the textile industry Narva Kreenholm's plants, with nearly 5000 workers, are of considerable importance. In other industries, Tartu is second to Tallinn. There is a great deal of peat mining in Estonia, in almost every county, especially in Harjumaa, Tartumaa, Pärnumaa and Järvamaa.

465 As seen in Table 4, the high-wage industries were quarries and mining, electrical, printing,

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

465 511 illustrated by the following table:

Table 7. Cost of Living Index and Real Wages.

Year	Cost of Living Index	Real wages (in cents) earned for one hour's work
1923	95.0	95.9
1927	97.8	96.4
1930	96.5	108.1
1935	82.3	118.2
1939	104.2	123.0

465 Salaries of white-collar workers varied. Low salaries were earned by clerical workers (about 80 kroons monthly), and beginning elementary school teachers (about 100 kroons monthly for 12 months). Gymnasium teachers received higher salaries, about 180-220 kroons monthly for 12 months. University professor's salaries averaged 350 kroons a month all year.

464 There are no statistics for the Estonian SSR. Deportations have drastically decreased the

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

464 Estonian labor force, especially in agriculture. In addition, collectivization of farms seems to have resulted in a decline of productivity of labor (see statistics under Subparagraph 3a, AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL).[1] Many Russian workers have been imported for work in the oil shale mines and oil refineries. Since this industry now furnishes gas to Leningrad, the Soviet officials seem to distrust Estonians in an industry of such importance.

434 [465] In 1946 the average monthly wage of the Estonian worker was estimated at 450 rubles, of which he received after all deductions had been made approximately 350 rubles. As compared to 1939, the worker in the Estonian SSR could buy in 1946 for his monthly wages:

	1939	1946
Rye bread.....	398 kg.	103 kg.

[1] [cat 116, pp.344-362--271- Analyst]

1;Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

466 were to contribute to the social well-being of the whole nation, and to protect especially those workers and employees who were economically dependent on other groups. There was a maximum eight-hour work day (for youth, 6.5 hours) in all industries, mines, and in transport and commercial enterprises in the towns. In the country the work-day was nine hours. In offices the working period was seven hours daily and forty-one hours a week. All overtime work was counted as time and a half. Night work was forbidden for women and young people, and for men

464 in the baking industry. Young people under fourteen years of age were forbidden to work in factories, mines, or construction and transport enterprises. In agricultural work the minimum age was twelve years, although shepherds and cattleherds could begin work at ten years.

745 work accidents by the State (1936).

Sickness insurance, which was also largely extended during independence, was carried out through the Sickness Fund to which the workers contributed one-third, and the employers the rest. Sick workers received medical care either completely or partially free of charge and also two-thirds of their wages.

Civil service and local government employees were insured against sickness, accidents, old age disability and invalidism.

Maternity aid was available to all female workers and government employees, and aid was provided for dependent children of workers and employees.

464 745 Unemployment was almost nonexistent in Estonia. Some 1000-2000 unskilled female workers were unemployed during the winter, and

464 during the depression this number rose to about
[745] 8000. Emergency relief work was organized by the local governments every winter. In the summertime Estonia was in great need of workers for farming and mining, so much so that workers were even imported from Poland for this purpose.

746 In summary, social conditions in Estonia at the end of independence were quite satisfactory and constant improvement was being made. The public conscience was alert to the problems of poverty, disease and unemployment. Each winter public enterprises (balls, concerts, etc.) were arranged, the income of which was given entirely to the needy unemployed. The churches, too, did work in helping the poor and sick.

511 The last World War, and especially the Soviet occupations, have drastically lowered the

Es. 433 464 727 167 The development of the new shale mines, shale-refining plants, electric power stations, etc., while increasing the economic potential of the U.S.S.R. as a whole, has perceptibly intensified the manpower problem from which Estonia is suffering as a consequence of the war. Thousands of Estonians fell in action during the hostilities, thousands were deported to the East by Soviet authorities in 1941 and many thousands more fled from their mother-country westward to escape the Soviet régime. The loss of such a considerable number of her inhabitants – many of them able-bodied people in the prime of life – has depleted the already scanty manpower resources of the little country. Hardly a single article on Estonian economy appearing in Soviet publications after the war has omitted to stress that Estonia's exceptional shortage of labour was a handicap for the reconstruction work in that country. This shortcoming has been remedied in the usual way, namely by importing Russian manpower in large enough numbers to fill the gaps created by the voluntary or forced exodus of the Estonians. Russian technical experts, mining engineers and skilled workers are helping to keep the wheels of Estonian economy turning. This applies especially to the 'Estonian Donbass', where can be found coal-miners from the Donets Basin and from the Moscow Province and shale-miners from the distant Volga.[31]

S.U. 164 545 While Russian colonization of Eastern Estonia is prompted by economic considerations a strategic colonization is simultaneously taking place in Estonia's 'Far West', her islands in the Baltic. The latter are important outposts of the U.S.S.R. as a whole and it is not surprising that the Soviet authorities should have sent there not only soldiers and sailors but also settlers. Thus on the small island of Vormsi, where there had never been a single Russian, there is now a Russian school with seven forms.[32] In so far as the islands preserved their Estonian character the Soviet authorities were determined to transform them into particularly reliable communist strongholds. Thus the 'movement' for the collectivization of Estonian agriculture originated under the guidance of a Russian party secretary on the island of Saarema (Ösel) where the first 'Kolkhoz' was formed in the autumn of 1947.[33]

Es. 661 665 When Soviet troops occupied Estonia in June 1940 the Estonian Communist Party was extremely small. In Estonia itself it had been decimated by the terror of the 'bourgeois régime', while the ranks of the Estonian communists in Russia had been depleted through Stalin's big purge. In the first half of 1940 small communist organizations existed in Tallin, where the party had between 120 and 150 members, and in other Estonian towns such as Tartu, Narva and Pärnu. In February 1941, over seven months after the establishment of the Soviet régime, the Estonian Communist Party had 2,107 full members and candidate-members which corresponded to 0·2 per cent of the total population of the country.* The newly recruited party members included

* *Sovetskaya Estoniya*, April 7th and 8th, 1951.